

CHAPTER 552
ELECTRICAL INSPECTION PROGRAM—PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

661—552.1(103) Required permits and inspections. Permits and inspections are required for any of the following electrical installations that are initiated on or after February 1, 2009:

1. All new electrical installations for commercial or industrial applications, including installations both inside and outside buildings, and for public-use buildings and facilities and any installation at the request of the owner.

2. All new electrical installations for residential applications in excess of single-family residential applications.

3. All new electrical installations for single-family residential applications requiring new electrical service equipment.

4. Any existing electrical installation observed during inspection which constitutes an electrical hazard. Existing installations shall not be deemed to constitute electrical hazards if the wiring was originally installed in accordance with the electrical code in force at the time of installation and has been maintained in that condition.

5. Installations of alarm systems or alarm system components as provided in 661—Chapter 560.

EXCEPTION 1: Installations in political subdivisions which perform electrical inspections and which are inspected by the political subdivision are not required to be inspected by the state electrical inspection program. Any installation which is subject to inspection and is on property owned by the state or an agency of the state shall be inspected by the state electrical inspection program.

EXCEPTION 2: Any electrical work which is limited to routine maintenance shall not require an inspection.

661—552.2(103) Request for inspection. Prior to commencement of any electrical installation, the person making such installation shall notify the electrical inspection section of the installation by applying for a permit and shall request an inspection of the installation through one of the following methods:

552.2(1) An inspection may be requested by completing and electronically submitting a Request for Permit form, available on the Web site of the electrical inspection program. Payment of the permit and inspection fees shall be submitted with the form in accordance with the instructions on the electrical inspection section Web site.

NOTE: The Web site to obtain, complete, and submit a Request for Permit form is, as of October 29, 2008: www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/electrical/inspection/.

552.2(2) An inspection may be requested by completing a Request for Inspection form and mailing it to the electrical inspection section as provided in rule 661—550.2(103). The Request for Inspection form may be obtained upon request to the electrical inspection section or from the Web site of the electrical inspection program. If a Request for Inspection form is submitted by mail, it shall be postmarked no less than seven days prior to the commencement of the installation.

552.2(3) An inspection may be requested by completing a Request for Inspection form and submitting it by fax transmission to the electrical inspection section at (515)725-6151. The Request for Inspection form may be obtained upon request to the electrical inspection section or from the Web site of the electrical inspection program.

661—552.3(103) Scheduling of inspections. Subject to the availability of electrical inspectors, the electrical inspector whose territory includes the location of a requested inspection shall schedule the requested inspection to be completed within three business days of the receipt of the request. If an inspection for which a timely request has been made is not completed within three business days of the completion of the installation, a licensee who completed the installation may energize any new circuits included in the installation, although the installation remains subject to condemnation and disconnection if found to be out of compliance with any applicable provision of 661—Chapter 504 when inspected.

661—552.4(103) Report of inspection. After the completion of an inspection, the inspector shall issue an inspection report on a form prescribed by the board. The report shall indicate the results of the inspection, which may be any of the following:

552.4(1) Approval. If the inspector finds that the installation is in compliance with applicable requirements, the inspector shall issue a report indicating that the installation is approved.

552.4(2) Order of correction. If the inspector finds that the installation is not in compliance with applicable requirements but does not present an imminent threat to the health or safety of any person, the inspector shall issue an order of correction, prescribing a time frame during which corrective action shall be taken by the licensee responsible for the installation to bring the installation fully into compliance.

552.4(3) Order of disconnection. If the inspector finds that the installation is not in compliance with applicable requirements and presents an imminent threat to the health or safety of any person, the inspector shall issue an order of disconnection, requiring that the installation be disconnected until corrective action has been taken which brings the installation into full compliance with applicable requirements. The installation shall not be reconnected until corrective action has been completed and the corrected installation has been approved by an inspector as in compliance with all applicable requirements. The inspector issuing an order of disconnection shall notify the utility providing electrical service to the location of the order and shall notify the utility when the order of disconnection is no longer effective.

661—552.5(103) Appeals. An order of correction or an order of disconnection may be appealed. However, an order of disconnection shall be complied with immediately, and the installation shall not be reconnected pending the outcome of the appeal.

552.5(1) A person who has received an order of correction or disconnection may request an informal appeal to the chief electrical inspector within 14 days of receiving the order by contacting the electrical inspection section by telephone, fax, E-mail, or mail. The informal appeal may be heard in any manner agreed to by the person filing the appeal and the chief electrical inspector. If the order is upheld by the chief electrical inspector, the person receiving the order may file a formal appeal pursuant to subrule 552.5(2).

552.5(2) A person who has received an order of correction or disconnection may file a request for a formal appeal to the board within 30 days of receiving the order or, if the person has filed a request for an informal appeal, within 30 days of having been notified that the chief electrical inspector has upheld the order. Formal appeals shall be processed as provided in 661—Chapter 10, except that wherever “commissioner” or “department of public safety” appears in those rules, “electrical examining board” shall be substituted.

These rules are intended to implement 2007 Iowa Acts, chapter 197.

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